PLYMOUTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2017

MAYFLOWER ROOM, TOWN HALL, 11 LINCOLN STREET, PLYMOUTH, MA – 4:00 PM

4:00PM - CALL TO ORDER

Ken Tavares, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Kenneth A. Tavares, Chairman
Anthony F. Provenzano Jr, Vice Chairman
John Mahoney
Sean Page *(Absent)*
Shelagh Joyce

Melissa Arrighi, Town Manager
Derek Brindisi, Assistant Town Manager

Chairman Tavares reminded the viewers that the meeting was being held early so the Board could attend the NRC Meeting being held later in the evening.

4:05PM – ARTICLE 12 - Chapter 90 Roads *(Sid Kashi/Melissa Arrighi)*

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds a sum of money as the State's share of the cost of work under G.L. c.90, §34(2)(a) of the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any other action relative thereto.

On a motion by Anthony Provenzano Jr and seconded by Shelagh Joyce, the Board approved moving Article 12 to the 2017 Annual Spring Town Meeting. *Voted 4/0*

4:07PM – ARTICLE 14 – Gravel Roads *(Sid Kashi/Melissa Arrighi)*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or otherwise fund $1,000,000 in improvements to Gravel Public Roads and Gravel Unaccepted Roads, or take any other action relative thereto. *(The special act relative to spending funds on unaccepted roads was passed by the State Legislature and signed by the Governor on June 13, 2012)*

Melissa Arrighi, Town Manager, said that there were 150 miles of unaccepted roads in Plymouth and that this request has increased from previous years to ½ million dollars.

Anthony Provenzano Jr, Vice Chairman, said that this is regarding accepted and unaccepted gravel roads in lieu of just unaccepted roads. He went on to say that we need to spend this money to keep our roads current.

John Mahoney, Selectman, said that he's meeting with Lynne Barrett, Director of Finance, to come up with a long term solution. Selectman Mahoney then asked if these funds will be spread out over time to pay it back.

Selectman Provenzano said that this money won't be borrowed and that it is being requested from free cash to be used up as needed.

On a motion by Anthony Provenzano Jr and seconded by Shelagh Joyce, the Board approved moving Article 14 to the 2017 Annual Spring Town Meeting. *Voted 4/0*

4:12PM – STM ARTICLES 1 – Amend Personnel By-Law *(Melissa Arrighi)*
STM ARTICLES 9 – Rescind Strong Fire Chief *(Melissa Arrighi)*
STM ARTICLES 10 – Rescind Strong Police Chief *(Melissa Arrighi)*
STM ARTICLES 11 – Rescind Civil Service [Fire] *(Melissa Arrighi)*

Ken Tavares, Chairman, read an email into the records from James Brown that he received this afternoon prior to the meeting asking the Board to postpone their vote.

Melissa Arrighi, Town Manager, said that these Article raised eyebrows last year but they feel strongly that this is in the best interest of the Chiefs and the Town of Plymouth. She went on to say they want to rescind Civil Service only at the executive, non-union level, and added that there will be challenges because Civil Service provides some protection specifically in terms of discipline. Ms. Arrighi then went over some of the wording and reasons why they propose removing Strong Chiefs.

Ed Bradley, Plymouth Fire Chief, came up to the podium to give the Board some examples of why he is supporting the removal of Civil Service. Chief Bradley described the testing process and how it's difficult to get the minimum applications needed to administer the test. He went on to say that because of age requirements he has to retire soon and there isn't enough time to put together a Civil Service Test to find his potential replacement. Chief Bradley described the situation as being in limbo, or being in a relay race with no one to pass the baton off to.

Selectman Mahoney asked what the reasoning is for removing Strong Chiefs, to which Chief Bradley said a lot of the language dates back to the early 1900's and does not apply any longer. He said it's natural to be afraid of the unknown, and opponents feel that this is a power grab by the Town Manager but it isn't, it will just make it easier to fill open positions. Chief Bradley went on to say the majority of Massachusetts Communities do not have Civil Service in place.

Shelagh Joyce, Selectman, asked Chairman Tavares when the email from James Brown was received, to which he said at 3:03pm this afternoon.

Selectman Joyce voiced her frustration that they received this information about a month ago and sent an email an hour prior to the meeting requesting us to postpone our vote.

Selectman Mahoney said he was willing to give them a week or two to come up with their comments to present to the Board.

Selectman Joyce felt that their comments wouldn't change from six months ago and that she finds it frustrating that firefighters that work 8 days per month are requesting a postponement an hour before our meeting. She also expressed disappointment that Selectman Sean Page hasn't been to a meeting in three weeks so she thinks we should vote tonight.

Chairman Tavares asked that the Board vote on STM Article 1 before moving on to the other three Articles for Civil Service.

On a motion by Shelagh Joyce and seconded by Anthony Provenzano Jr, the Board approved moving STM Article 1 to the 2017 Annual Spring Town Meeting. *Voted 4/0*

On a motion by John Mahoney and seconded by Anthony Provenzano Jr, the Board approved tabling STM Articles 9, 10 and 11 until February 14, 2017. *Voted 4/0*

4:47PM - LICENSES AND ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

LICENSES

None

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

The Board agreed to execute a Purchase and Sales Agreement for 26.272 acres of land located off Little Sandy Pond Road shown on Assessor's Map 59, Lot 27-66 as approved under Article 16G of the 2016 Spring Town Meeting.

The Board agreed to execute an Acceptance of Deed for 26.272 acres of land located off Little Sandy Pond Road shown on Assessor's Map 59, Lot 27-66 as approved under Article 16G of the 2016 Spring Town Meeting.

On a motion by Anthony Provenzano Jr and seconded by Shelagh Joyce, the Board approved an amendment to the Road Race Policy. *Voted 4/0*

The Board agreed to execute a Purchase and Sales Agreement for 7.857 acres of land located of Hedge Pond Road shown on Assessor's Map 55, Parcel C01-055-090A as approved under Article 16E of the 2016 Spring Town Meeting.

The Board agreed to execute a Purchase and Sales Agreement for 10.29 acres of land located off West Russell Mills Road shown on Map 82, Parcel 58A-1, 58A-2, and 58A-3. *(The Board later rescinded their execution until February 7, 2017)*

4:50PM – RECESS

The Board will recess until 7:30pm in order for them to attend the NRC Meeting.

7:30PM – CALL TO ORDER

Present: Kenneth Tavares, Chairman *(Absent)*
Anthony Provenzano Jr, Vice Chairman
John Mahoney
Shelagh Joyce
Sean Page *(Absent)*

Melissa Arrighi, Town Manager

Ken Tavares, Chairman of the Board, did not come back for the second session as he was attending the NRC Meeting at the 1620 Hotel.

7:30PM – PUBLIC HEARING – Acceptance of Roads [Article 15] *(Sid Kashi)*

Vice Chairman Provenzano read the Hearing Notice into the record as follows:

> *Notice is hereby given to all persons interested that the Board of Selectmen will meet in the Mayflower Meeting Room, First Floor of the Plymouth Town Hall, 11 Lincoln Street on Tuesday, January 31, 2017 at 7:30pm at which time and place the said Selectmen will proceed to view the above route, to see all persons and corporations interested therein who may then and there desire to be heard thereon, and then to layout, locate and establish said way over the route above-described, and to assess all such damages as any person or corporation may sustain by the location and construction of the way aforesaid, and to do whatever else may legally be done on the premises.*

On a motion by John Mahoney and seconded by Shelagh Joyce, the Board approved moving Article 15 to the 2017 Annual Spring Town Meeting. *Voted 3/0*

7:43PM - COMMITTEE LIAISON / DESIGNEE UPDATES

7:44PM - OLD BUSINESS / LETTERS / NEW BUSINESS

7:45PM - ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Anthony Provenzano Jr and seconded by Shelagh Joyce, the Board voted to adjourn the Open Session at 7:45pm. *Voted 3/0*
By Roll Call: Provenzano-Yes, Mahoney-Yes, Joyce-Yes

Recorded by: Christopher Badot
Administrative Assistant, Board of Selectmen